

EXHIBIT 3

IN THE UNITED STATES DISTRICT COURT
FOR THE DISTRICT OF SOUTH CAROLINA
BEAUFORT DIVISION

UNITED STATES OF AMERICA,)	
)	May 25, 2023
)	
- versus -)	Charleston, SC
)	
CORY HOWERTON FLEMING,)	9: 23- 394- 1
)	
Defendant.)	

TRANSCRIPT OF ARRAIGNMENT AND CHANGE OF PLEA

BEFORE THE HONORABLE RICHARD M. GERGEL
UNITED STATES DISTRICT JUDGE, presiding

A P P E A R A N C E S:

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Karen E. Martin, RMR, CRR
US District Court
District of South Carolina

1 THE COURT: Well, why would -- if the fees are
2 \$670,000, then naturally it would go to the beneficiaries
3 of the estate, correct?

4 THE DEFENDANT: I thought they did.

5 THE COURT: But you understand what I'm saying
6 is that normally you wouldn't need to overstate your legal
7 fees because the net amount is what goes to the
8 beneficiaries, correct?

9 THE DEFENDANT: Yes, sir.

10 THE COURT: So let me understand this a little
11 bit better. One day we're going to have a sentencing
12 hearing. I need to understand this. Where did you think
13 the 600-and-some-odd-thousand dollars was going to go if
14 not -- was Mr. Murdaugh to get some portion of it?

15 THE DEFENDANT: A portion, yes, sir.

16 THE COURT: How much?

17 THE DEFENDANT: Around a hundred thousand
18 dollars roughly.

19 THE COURT: Now, is that a normal thing that
20 defendants get, a hundred thousand dollars of the
21 plaintiff's attorneys' fees?

22 THE DEFENDANT: No, sir.

23 (WHEREUPON, the defendant and attorney spoke
24 privately.)

25 THE COURT: And what was the thinking behind the